GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:263
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2010
SELF SUFFICIENCY IN RICE PRODUCTION
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country has attained self-sufficiency in the production of rice;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to import huge quantities of rice to meet the shortfall;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the efforts taken to reduce the import bill on the purchase of agricultural commodities?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. During 2007-08 and 2008-09, rice production was 96.69 and 99.18 million tons respectively against the target of 93.00 and 97.00 million tons in 2007-08 and 2008-09.

(c) to (e): At present level of allocations, the existing stock of rice is sufficient to meet the requirement under Public Distribution System (PDS) and other welfare schemes of the Government during current year, there may be no need to import of rice for the Central pool. However, in order to increase the availability of rice in the country, ban on export of non- basmati rice has been continued till further orders; export of basmati rice has been restricted with an Minimum Export Price (M.E.P.) of US$ 900 per tone Free on Board (F.O.B.) and import by private traders have been allowed at Nil duty.

Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has been implementing various crop development schemes of National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Macro Management Mode of Agriculture (MMA), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Integrated Oilseed, Pulses, Maize and Oilpalm (ISOPOM), Accelerated Pulses Programme (A3P), extending Green Revolution to Eastern India, organizing 60,000 Pulses & Oilseeds Villages in rainfed areas etc. for increasing the production and productivity of crops.